May, 1986
Vol. 4, No. 2
Info-G.U.T.S Review .....  4
Evaluating (-1)^N ..... 9
News From All Over ..... 10
Hardware Survey ..... 11
Beginner's Corner: D File..... 2 ..... 3
TS Tinrboard
TS Tinrboard
Th Tinyboard BBS ..... 4
RE: BBS.


From the Editor

"May you live in interesting times."
That ancient Chinese curse about suns up last month's events. First, we had the news of Anstrad's buyout of Sinclair Research (covered later in this issue). Shortly after that, and just before the April meeting, cane the news of the buyout of Sinclair USA by At. This was accompanied by a vigorous shakeout of US dealers. At promises more aggressive promotion of the OL, while shifting responsibility for service from the distributor to the dealer level. Prices should remain stable, or drop slightly. I have heard no speculation about the relation between At and Anstrad - I guess we are to cross our fingers and hope.

Next, we cone to the club's purchase of SCLD chips from Portugal. Because of the Timex computerfest on May 3-4, It was decided to push for rapid shipment of the order. Accordingly, payment for the 100 chips was wired to Timex Portugal. Timex Portugal was prompt in air-freighting then here, BUT they ended up in Kennedy Intl on April 11. From there, they trickled down, accumulating air-freight charges, through LaGuadia and National, finally ending up at Dulles (so that they could be cleared through Customs) on the 23rd! As tine was running out, I spent two mornings out at Dulles getting then out of hock. I have never seen civil servants as aggressively unhelpful as the main office customs personnel. For your information, here are a list of importation expenses:


And since I didn't have time to master a $3 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ thick manual of importation procedures on my own. Import broker fee: 90.00

I'm sure that sone money was wasted, as there wasn't time to shop for best price on these "services". I did learn that the $\$ 100.00$ of paperwork could have been avoided if the value of the shipment had been under $\$ 1000,00$. Oh well.

And the chips? They don't work. L.I.S.T. Newsletter had reviewed the TC 2068 last May, and commented that the chip's number had changed. Because of that, I had tested several SCLD chips in may socketed machine; they had all worked, in spite of differing chip numbers. Well, the Portugal SCLD's are marked TS 2068, but they don't work.

What now? There is some speculation that the chips may be functionally identical, needing only a few jumpers to be adapted to our machines. 1 an writing to Portugal, explaining the problem. If Portugal is cooperative, and there are no more than five jumpers needed, we will proceed to sell the chips as planned. If not, we will attempt to return the chips for a refund.

1 wish to repeat ny thanks to the two members that have financially backed the club, in this venture, and apologise fer how it turned out. The lateness of the $n / 1$ is due to the effort involved in getting this chip business worked through.

Lastly, we have the Midwest T/S Conputerfest. A number of members are going, and 1 an looking foreward to the stories they will bring back with then. Which brings us to...

## The May Meeting

Due to the press of other business, no agenda has been planned, but you are sure to hear about the latest developments in the world of $\mathrm{T} / \mathrm{S}$ computing. If nothing better develops, I'll give a demo of Jack Dohaney's M Script version 5, and show how to get $M$ Script to print double column. See you there!

C.A.T.S

## Deap Mark,

I have been inspired by the Beginner's corner, and hope that you have the time to coafirm my understanding and angwer the questions below about the TS-2000's video display.

The Ts-2010 displays 32 characters across the screen, and 24 rous. Sinct exch charactor is stored in one byte, the TS devotes 256 bits per colmen or 6144 (256324) bits for the screen display. Because the menory location of the video display starts at 16384, one may think that if you POXE 22528, such as POKE 22528,128, a aice dot will appear at the botto of your screen. Well, it does not. The last address I can POME and get a dot is 22462. Assuming ay calculations are correct, 1) thy doess ${ }^{\prime}$ t a dot appear at address 22528,2) what happened to the 66 bits beturen 22528 and 22462, and 3) why isn'1 the differeace sone multiple of eight?

> Thanks, Jerry

Dear Jerry (and all those others that didn't have the nerve to ask):

1'n afraid that there are sone errors in your calculations, partly steming frae a confusion between bits and bytes, but thanks for speaking up. I'll go over a bit of the basic ground, and then cover your question.

Display files cone in two flavors. The simplest is character mapped. In this type of file, each character position on the screen is mirrored by a single byte that holds the code for that position. This system is used by many of the early generation of coaputers - including the Kaypro and TS1000. In order to dram the character's shape on the screen, the screen driver progra takes each character byte, looks up its shape in a table, and sends the shape information to the electron bea that is scanning the screen at the correct instant.

Its advantage is that it dossn't take up much space. Uhile there may be 25 'a's on the screen at once, the ghous of an "a" need only be defined once. In addition, it is easy to PEEK into the display file and read what is held there. The disadvantage is that nothing can be put on the screen that hasn't been defined in the character table.
"Second Generation" conputers, such as the 2068, use a bit mapped display file. Each dot on the screen that can be "lit up" is represented by a single bit in the file. A screen can contain a LOT of bits. The standard 2068 display is $175 \times 255$ bits, or a total of 44.625 bits! The double display file, as used in the of colum mode, contains twict that.

Why go to all that trouble? Because it is then easy to dram any shape desired on the screen - so that ie can have little Pac-men, spiders, etc., running around when we want them (or elaborate full-screen paintings, such as the title screen to Penetrator). The disadvantages here are a requirment for a lot of BaH to hold the file, and a more difficult time in PEEKing
information off the screen.
To ansuer your question: Yes, the 2068 screen is composed of 24 rous of 32 characters each, or a total of 768 characters. But, each character of information is held in sioht bytes rather than one, or a total of 6144 bytes. You are right that the display file starts at 16384, but it stretches to 22527. 22528 is the start of the Attributes file (next month). Pooking above 22462 is fine, but not in impediate mode: the operating systea clears the botton two lines when it reports back to you. Try POKE 22527,255: PAUSE 0 and you'11 see what happens.

The difference you found isn't a multiple of eight because of the strange system Sinclair used to encode the screen. Just try to use POKE to blacken one byte directly under another and you'll see what I mean. This is covered on page 250 of the 2068 manual.

By the may, try CLS, then PRINT 'A'. Now try to find that " $A$ ' by PRINT CHRS PEEK (d.file), You won't be able to - the " $A$ " is dram to the screen bit by bit. The only uay to read a character off the sereen on the 2068 is to use the BASIC function aman (lins, col).

OK, prople, Tho's next?
ALERT! ALERT! $1000 / \mathrm{MODEM}$ ALERT!
According to N.Y.T.S.E. Network $n / 1,4 / 86$, the Anchor MODE boards will not work properly and may even blow circuits in the 1000 unless they have ferrite beads on each conductor of the cable near the computer end of the cable. Not all the bare boards being sold by various dealers have these little beads. They are available fron Electronics Plus 7 10/41.00 or so. The beads are not needed on the 2068, This fron Mare Kloppert of MTTSE.

## Contributors

Martin Brennan
Gene Carbonneau
Mark Fisher
Randy \& Lucy Gordon
Government Computer News
Martin Helfgott
Mare Kloppert

## OFFICIALDOM

President
Vice President
Vice President
Secretary-Treas.
Editor
Production.
DEADLINE DATES
Newsletter

May 17
June 21

Management Info Sys Week Mike Morris
Manny Quintero
Jerry Saltzman
Everett Talevera
H.E. Weppler

George White

John Conger
Jules Gesang.
Tom Bent
Sarah Fisher
Mark Fisher
Sarah Fisher

2 May

## 








































































 nut ofe is used．






 255，


 로노ㅇㅑㅜㄹ





 Coply Me

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { DI By } 176
\end{aligned}
$$

> CPA난 255 RET





 려ำ




10 ค．
解 1
toft 9
Plisin Pa
15 Hy 128
OUT 255,9
LD 8 B 至
OLI
Pap AF
Cfill Citaite
LD inturtobl ？
DF量－TO－DFE
XOP 9


LD De ，24576
5 BE，돌
F 就
Ex DE，撞

CF
RET Z
HEIT










T/S Tinyboard
By Flashware (c) 1986
Edited and revised by Mark Fisher
T/S TINYBOARD was begun as an experiment in how the MODEM works. The first step in the beginning was to find out about the harduare inside the Westridge MODEM. The controlling chip is an 8251 USART. Further information about the 8251 can be found in the Intel 8080 Users Manual. The softuare in its present state is fully operational, even though it is crude. I hope by releasing it to public donain many improvenents will be made. All of the present controls may not be to the sysop's liking. It is uritten in BASIC with named variables for all nodules so modification should be fairly easy.

Using the progran is fairly easy. It has been tested for many ueeks here in Cincinatti. The first thing you see when you LOAD is the Flashware logo, followed by nessages that ask whether you want to LDAD a nessage base and logon bulletin. Since you are just starting, the answer to both of these questions is no. The progran will then immediately go to autoanswer mode. Fron there, the sysop can exit to Edit mode by pressing NOT ( $5 y \mathrm{mb}-\mathrm{s}$ ). Operation of the progran can be nonitored at all times by watching the screen.

Sone of the original research on this harduare cane from Randy Kuhn of Cincinatti TSUG. It is his basic autoanswer poutine. Many people have told me that I shouldn't release the progran to public donain, but rather sell it. I feel that in order to survive we are going to have to help each other. Make any changes you want to in the soffware - but if you make signifigant improvements please post them to me so that we all may benefit.

If anyone puts it up full tine let me know - I would like to call.

Randy/Lucy Gordon
E-MAIL M1106,262
TSUG of Cincinatti
11 Funston Lane
Cincinatti, OH 45218
Mark Fisher's Revision
1'm not sure the Randy and Lucy would recognise the ir creation in this listing; l've changed almost every line number in an attenpt to clarify the progran's flow. Major changes include:

1) I have pulled the Send and Recieve routines out into subroutines, rather than repeat them over and over in the progran. Since there is an ON ERR return to the Guit routine if a glitch occurs in transmission, unused RETURN values could be left in the machine stack, causing a crash. To avoid this, I established $\operatorname{NN} b$, which calculates a value for the variable RET. Rather than GO SUB, 160 TO Intake

[^0]and return via 60 To RET.
2) The message base may be broused through the Read menu, allowing listing messages by sender, addressee, or number. I would like to implement a variable length nessage base to conserve menory (or, perhaps, store the messages on disk).
3) The Timer routine has been greatly streanlined and incorporated into the Main Menu title.
4) Line 9025 loads AERCO print driver code. Modify or onit as needed for your system. If you onit it, don't forget to nodify line 9810 as well.
I wish I could say that this version has been thoroughly tested. I have used it extensively between two Westridge MODEMs in ay home, and it works well. It has also been used through phone lines to a 2068 with no problems, and a 1000 with a few glitches. An attenpt to access it from a Macintosh failed.

Have fun! If you can start up a CATs version of Tinyboard, let me know. All we need is a menber that can afford to leave his MoDEM hooked to a line for some fixed part of a day on a regular basis. 1 think the club could even be persuaded to loan a MODEM to the nember that volunteers to be the sysop.

MF

1 CLEAR 64000: LET $\quad$ "*****************************

* T/S Tinyboard ** by Flashware *
* (c) 1986 ** Randy/Lucy Gordon * TSUG Cincinatti, oh *******************************
t*+" Edited by Mark Fisher, CATS"
3060709000
400 REM *** Newline ****************************************
410 RANDOMIZE USR output
420 OUT 115,13
430 RETURN

510 POKE 23692,255
520 FOR $x=1$ TO LEN $p \neq$
530 RANDONIZE USR output
540 OUT 115, CODE $\mathrm{p}(\mathrm{x}(\mathrm{x})$
550 IF $\mathrm{ps}(\mathrm{x}) \mathrm{y}=$ = "THEN PRINT $\mathrm{p} \$(\mathrm{x})$;
560 NEXT x
570 RETUPN
600 REM ***** intake word ************************************
610 LET c $\$=$ "": ON ERR GO T0 quit
620 LET Us=CHRS USR input: PRINT u\$;
630 IF v $\$=$ CHR 13 THEN PRINT: GO TO ret

700 RE1 ***** timer ******************************************
710 LET time=INT (<PEEK 23672+256*PEEK 23673+256*256*PEEK 23674
)/60): LET hr=INT (time/3600): LET min=INT ( (time-hr*3600)/60)
 (time-(hr*3600tnin*60)) ${ }^{4}$ sec"
730 RETURN
 1010 OUT 119,34
1020 OUT 119，0：REM Hangs up
1030 REM ansloop
1040 LET $\mathrm{a}=\mathrm{JN} 119$
1050 IF CODE JNKEY $=195$ THEN GO TO edit
1060 IF $a=5$ THEN 60 T0 ansloop
1070 FOR $x=1$ TO 5：BEEP ．1，40：NEXT $x$
1080 ofT 119,2
1090 OUT 119，34：REM MODEM seek tone
1100 PAUSE 300
2000 REM＊＊＊＊＊Warmstart＊＊
2010 FOR $x=7$ TO 0 STEP -1 ：BORDER $x:$ BEEP $.1 ; x$ ：NEXT $x$ ：OUT 119，
64：OUT 119，123：OUT 119，55：POKE 23674，0：POKE 23673，0：POKE 23
672，0：REM set online tiner
2020 PAUSE 30：FOR $x=1$ TO 30：RANDOMIZE USR output：OUT 115，0：N
EXT $x$
2030 IF IN 119＜128 THEN 60 T0 quit
2040 LET $\mathrm{p} \$=$ CHR $26+$ CHR $31+$ CHR $\$ 28$ ： 60 SUB send：REM clear rec． screen
2050 FOR $x=1$ TO 5： 60 SUB $n 1$ ：PRINT ：NEXT $x$
2060 LET p $\$=$ t $\$$ ： 60 SUB send：REM send logon bulletin
2070 FOR $x=1$ T0 5： 60 SUB nl：PRINT ：NEXT $x$
2080 LET $p=$＂Please enter full name and date：＂＋CHR 5：60 SUB se nd：60 SUB $n 1$
2090 LET ret＝FN b（）： 60 TO intake
2100 LET $u \$=c \$+C H R \$ 13:$ LPRINT $c \$ t^{*}$＂；

2510 RESTORE 2520： 60 SUB timer
2520 DATA＂T／S Tinyboard Main Menu＂，＂Time on＝＂＋x＊，＂价保 Mes5 ages＂，＂〈L＞eave Message＂，＂〈C＞at node＂，＂$\langle 6\rangle$ oodbye＂，＂＂Choice ？：

2530 FOR $p=1$ TO 8：GO SUB nl：READ p\＄：GO SUB send：PRINT
2540 NEXT P
2550 LET ret＝FN b（）：GO TO intake
2560 JF c $\$=$＂R＂OR c $\$==^{*} r^{*}$ THEN GO TO read
2570 IF c $\$=$＂L＂OR c $\mathbf{c}=$＇l＂THEN 60 TO leave

2590 IF $\mathrm{c} \$=" 6$＂OR $\mathrm{c} \$={ }^{2} \mathrm{~g}^{\prime}$＂THEN 60 TO quit
260060 T0 inputcon

3010 G0 SUB nl： 60 SUB nl：RESTORE 3020
3020 DATA STRs ct＂message＂＋（＂s＂AND c $( \rangle) 1) t^{*}$ on Tinyboard．＂，＂Las t message left was \＃＂tSTR y1，＂＂，＂〈nun）Read mssg（nun）＂，＂イS〉en der list＂，＂〈A〉ddressee list＂，＂MMenu＂，＂Select one：＂＋CHR 5
3030 FOR $p=1$ TO 8：GO SUB nl：READ p p ： 60 SUB send：PRINT ：NEXT P
3040 LET ret＝FN bo： 60 TO intake
3050 IF $\mathrm{c}=$ $=$＂ S ＂OR c $\$=$＂ $\mathrm{s}^{\prime}$ THEN 60 TO read＋400
3060 IF $c \$={ }^{2} A^{4}$ OR $c \$="$＂THEN 60 TO readt 600
3070 IF $c=={ }^{*}=M^{\prime}$ OR $c==^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{a}^{\prime \prime}$ THEN 60 TO inputcon
3080 FOR $x=1$ TO LEN $c \$$ ：IF CODE $c \$(x)<48$ OR CODE $c \$(x)) 57$ THEN
60 TO read
3090 NEXT $x$ ： $1 F$ LEN $c \$=0$ THEN 60 T0 inputcon
3100 LET $y=U A L$ c $\$:$ IF $y(1$ OR y）c THEN $60 T 0$ read
3110 LET p ${ }^{4}={ }^{*}$ Message number：＂+ STR y； 60 SUB nl： 60 SUB send： 6 0 SUB $n 1$
3120 FOR $v=1$ TO 1000：POKE 23692，255
3130 IF COOE $n \$(y, v)=3$ THEN LET $v=1000$ ：NEXT $u: 60$ TO read

3150 IF v＞64 THEN NEXT $v$
3160 IF（ $v>32$ AND CODE $\quad \$(y, v)=13$ ）THEN LET $v=64$ ： 60 SUB of
3170 IF（ $v<32$ AND CODE $n \$(y, v)=13$ ）THEN LET $v=32$
3180 NEXT 4
319060 SUB nl
320060 TO read

3410 FOR $p=1$ TO c：LET $p=S T R \$ p: 60$ SUB send：FOR $v=38$ TO 64
3420 LET $p=a \$(p, v)$ ； 60 SUB send：IF $n+(p, v)=$ CHR 13 THEN 60 TO 3440
3430 NEXT U
3440 PRINT ：NEXT p
3450 LET p\＄＝＂Choose a（nun）or 〈M）enu＂： 60 SUB send：LET ret＝FN b（）： 60 TO intake
346060 TO 3070

3610 FOR $p=1$ TO c：LET $p \$=S T R \$ p: G 0$ SUB send：FOR $u=4$ TO 32
3620 LET $p=$ n $\$(p, v)$ ： 60 SUB send：If $n \$(p, v)=$ CHR 13 THEN 60 TO 3640
3630 NEXT प
3640 PRINT ：NEXT p
365060703450

4010 LET $y 1=y 1+1$ ：If $y 1$ ） 20 THEN LET $y 1=1$
4020 DIM 1 1 （ 1000 ）
4030 GO SUB nl：LET $p \xi=$＂Message to：＂： 60 SUB send：LET ret＝FN b （）： 60 TO intake
4040 LET 1\＄（ TO 32）＝＂To：＂＋c\＄＋CHR 13：LET ps＝＂Fron：＂tu＊：LET I $\$(33 \mathrm{TO}$ 64）＝p $\boldsymbol{*}$ ： 60 SuB send
4050 G0 SUB nl：PRINT ：LET p $\$=$＂Input nessage（ 900 chrs nax）．．
（Ctrl－C）to SAUE，Ctl－D to abort＂：PRINT ：GO SUB nl
4060 GO SUB send：PRINT＂： 60 SUB nl：GO SUB nl
4070 ON ERR GO TO quit：FOR $v=65$ TO 1000：POKE 23692，255：LET
nI＝USR input：REM ctl－C＝ $03 \mathrm{H}=\mathrm{ETX}, \mathrm{Ct} 1-\mathrm{D}=04=\mathrm{EOT}$
4080 LET $1 \$(v)=$ CHR $m$ l：PRINT $1(v):$ IF $m i=3$ THEN LET $v=1000$
$4090 \mathrm{JF} \mathrm{m}=4$ THEN LET yl＝y1－1： 60 T0 inputcon
4100 NEXT U：PRINT ：LET $n \$(y 1)=1 \$$
4110 LET $\mathrm{c}=\mathrm{c}+1$ ：IF c） 20 THEN LET $\mathrm{c}=20$
4120 GO TO inputcon

5010 ON ERR 60 T0 quit：LET $k=0$
5020 PRINT ：GO SUB nl：LET ps＝＇Paging sysop ＂
： 60 SUB send：PRINT ：GO SUB nl
5030 FOR $i=1$ TO 128：IF INKEYSく ${ }^{*}$ ：THEN 60 TO 5060
5040 LET $p \$=1$ ：： 60 SUB send：BEEP 11,10
5050 NEXT i：LET $p=$＂The sysop is not available．．．．．＂：FOR $x=1 \mathrm{~T}$ 0 10：BEEP ，1，1：NEXT x： 60 SUB nl： 60 SUB send：PRINT： 60 SUB nl： 60 TO inputcon
5060 G0 SUB nl：PRINT ：LET $p=$＝＇You are now in chat mode＂＋CHR 1 $3+$＂Ctl－C to exit＂：FOR $x=1$ TO 10：BEEP $1, x / 2$ ：NEXT $x: 60$ SUB $x$ e nd： 60 SUB al
5070 CLS ：PRINT＂You are in chat node with＂＇us＂＇Symbl Shift／NO T to escape．．．．．＂
5080 IF $K=3$ OR CODE IWKEY $\$ 195$ THEN 60 TO inputcom：REM 195＝not 5090 POKE 23692，255
5100 LET $a=U S R$ statehk
5110 IF（ $a=2$ OR $=3$ ）THEN LET $k=U S R$ input；PRINT CHR $k ;$ if $k=$ 13 THEN PRINT＂）＂；
5120 IF $(a=10 R a=3)$ AND INKEY $\left\langle\left\rangle^{\prime \prime}\right.\right.$ THEN 60 SUB 5140

513060 TO 5080
5140 LET $p=1 N K E Y \$$ : 60 SUB send: IF CODE $p \$=13$ THEN PRINT " 5150 RETURN
 7010 ON ERR RESET
702060 SUB timer: LPRINT ": " $3 \times$
7030 PAUSE 30: CLS : RANDONIZE USR output: OUT 115,28: RANDOMIZE
USR output: OUT 115,31
704060 SUB nl: CLS : PAUSE 10

SUB nl: LET $p \$={ }^{\text {s }}$ Thank you for calling the T/S Tinyboard... Han g up now"
7060 GO SUB send
7070 PAUSE 120
7080 OUT 119,64: OUT 119,0; OUT 119,0
7090 PAUSE 60: CLS : FOR $x=60$ TO 1 STEP -5: BEEP $1, x$ : NEXT $x: 6$ 0 TO autoans

8010 CLS : PRINT "Sysop Editor""*\{R)ead Messages""* $\langle 0\rangle$ elete Me
 se ${ }^{*}$
8020 LET $1=$ =INKEY
8030 IF i\$="" THEN GOTO 8020
8040 IF is=" r " OR i $\$=$ "R" THEN INPUT "Message 1 ? " ${ }^{3} \mathrm{xi}$ PRINT "Mes sage "'; $x^{\prime} m \$(x)^{\prime \prime}$ End of Message": PAUSE 0: 60 TO edit
8050 IF is="d" OR is="D" THEN INPUT "Delete message \#? ";x: INP UT STR $x+$ " Are you sure? ( $y / n$ ) "sio: IF is=" $y$ " THEN 60 SUB 840 0

8060 IF $i \$=11$ OR $i \$=$ "L' THEN 60 SUB 8600

8080 IF $i \$=1 s^{\prime}$ OR $i \$=1 S^{\prime}$ THEN 60 SUB savet 20
8090 GO TO edit


8420 LET $c=c-1$ : IF $c(0$ THEN LET $y 1=0$
8430 LET $y=$ j $=$
8440 RETUPN

8610 LET $c=c+1$ : IF c)20 THEN LET $c=20$
8620 LET $y \mid=y 1+1$ : IF $y 1) 20$ THEN LET $y \mid=1$
8630 PRINT Message ${ }^{\prime \prime}$ 'y1: FOR $x=1$ T0 1000: PAUSE 0: LET mit $(y 1, x$
 $=$ CHR 3: RETURN
8640 NEXT $x:$ RETURN

9010 REM 20 nes5age base
9020 PAPER 0: INK 7: BORDER 0: CLS
9025 LET $p=64261$ : POKE 26704; INT ( $p / 256$ ): POKE 26703, $p$-(INT ( $p / 2$ 56)*256): LOAD "CODE

9030 LET $y 1=0$ : LET y=yl: LET $c=y$
9040 DIM y(2): DIM 1\$(1000): DIM $m$ (20,1000): LET $\boldsymbol{n}(1)={ }^{*} N o$ ness ages found $\qquad$ +CHR 3
9050 LET $n 1=400$
9060 LET send=500
9070 LET intake $=600$
9080 LET tiner=700
9090 LET autoans $=1000$
9100 LET ansloop $=1030$
9110 LET warmstar $=2000$
9120 LET inputcon=2500
9130 LET read=3000

9140 LET leave=4000
9150 LET chat $=5000$
9160 LET quit=7000
9170 LET edit=8000
9180 LET nc $=9500$
9190 LET title=9700
9200 LET save=9800
9210 LET statchk $=64000$
9220 LET input=64100
9230 LET output $=64200$
924060 SUB title: 60 SUB me
9250 FOR $x=1$ TO 3: BEEP . $1,25+x$ : NEXT $x:$ INPUT "Do you wish to 1
 Part load...": PAUSE 100: LOAD "" DATA m\$(): LOAD " DATA y(): LET $y 1=y(1)$ : LET $c=y(2)$
9260 INPUT "Do you wish to load a logon bulletin? "; x *: If $\mathrm{x} \$={ }^{\mathbf{1}} \mathrm{y}$ " OR $x={ }^{\text {™ }}$ THEN PRINT 1 ; "Start logon tape (with data as ts)., .": LOAD " DATA t $\$()$
9270 PRINT "......"(NNOT) from most nodes will exit to sysop co ntrol mode:": BEEP :1,35: BEEP .1,38: PAUSE 180
9280 PRINT 'Now going to Autoanswer mode': FOR $x=1$ T0 3: BEEP , 1,10+x: PAUSE 180: CLS ; 60 TO autoans
 9510 RESTORE 9520: FOR $x=64000$ TO 64008; READ $n$ : POKE $x_{y} n$ : NEXT $x$
9520 DATA $175,219,119,230,3,79,6,0,201$
9530 RESTORE 9540: FOR $x=64100$ TO 64132: READ n: POKE $x$,n: NEXT $\times$
9540 IATA $219,119,230,128,200,175,219,119,230,2,40,244,219,115,6$ $, 0,79,219,119,230,126,200,175,219,119,230,1,40,244,121,211,115,2$ 01
9550 RESTORE 9560: FOR $x=64200$ TO 64212: READ n: POKE $x, n:$ NEXT x
9560 DATA $219,119,230,128,200,175,219,119,230,1,40,244,201$
9570 RETURN

9710 CLS : PRINT tif: CIRCLE 123,80,20: RESTORE 9760: PLOT 127,10
3: FOR $i=1$ TO 11: READ $x, y$ : DRAN $x, y$ : NEXT i
9720 FOR $i=1$ TO 9: READ $x, y$; BEEP $x, y$ : IF $i=3$ THEN PAUSE 4
9730 IF $\mathrm{i}=6$ THEN PAUSE 8
9740 NEXT i
9750 RETUPN
9760 DATA $20,0,-5,-20,-15,0,-5,-10,-8,0,-6,-17,0,23,6,0,4,9,6,0$, $2,15,2,10,2,5,2,2,2,10, .2,5, .2,2,2,10, .2,5,2,2,2,5, .2,10$, .2,10

9810 CLEAR : SANE "Tinyboard" LINE 0: SANE "prt"CODE 64256,1111: PRINT "rewind and VERIFY": VERIFY ": 60 T0 9000
9820 INPUT "Data SAUE name? ";x*: SAUE $x$ ( DATA n\$(): LET $y(1)=y$ 1: LET $y(2)=6$ : SANE $x$ DATA $y()$ : RETURN
 9905 REM *) Renunber **
9910 INPUT "Look for? ";1"Stop at? ";s"Start new fron? ";n"Al
1 OK? (y/n) " ${ }^{2} \mathrm{x}$ "
9915 IF $x \$()^{\prime} y^{*}$ THEN 60 T0 9910
9920 IF $s>9900$ THEN LET $s=9900$
9925 LET $x=26710$
9930 IF PEEK $x * 256+$ PEEK $(x+1)$ <1 THEN 60 TO 9960
9940 IF PEEK $x * 256+$ PEEK $(x+1))=5$ THEN STOP
9945 POKE $x_{1}$ INT ( $n / 256$ )
9950 POKE $x+1$, n -\{PEEK $\times * 256$ )
9955 LET $n=n+10$
9960 LET $x=x+$ PEEK $(x+2)+256 *$ PEEK $(x+3)+4$
996560 TO 9930

# Rights To Sinclair OPUs Purchased 

By MARYBETH KERRIGAN

LONDON (FNS )-Sinclair Research Ltd., the troubled British home computer maker, last week sold the worldwide rights to manufacture and sell Sinclair computers to Amstrad Consumer Electronics Ply. for $\$ 7.3$ million.

The acquisition will make Amstrad Britain's largest supplier of home computers with 60 to 80 percent of the U.K. market.

Sir Clive Sinclair, the flamboyant entrepreneur and founder of Sinclair Research, also announced a major restructuring of the company, which last August was rescued by its banks and creditors.

Sinclair Research will become a holding company with three subsidiaries that will develop wafer-scale semiconductor produts "and telecommunications equipment.
Amstrad said it plans to concentrate on improving the Sinclair overseas marketing organization. In the United States, Sinclair could benefit from Amstrad's recently signed exclusive distribution agreement with Sears, under which the retailer will sell Amstrad home computer products in its U.S. and Canadian outlets. According to an Amstrad spokesman, the company is negotiating with Sears to extend that agreement to include Sinclair products.

## Will Acquire Inventory

Amstrad has agreed to acquire all of Sinclair's existing stocks for an undisclosed sum and will continue to fill existing orders through Sinclair's U.K. menufacturers.

But Amstrad chief executive Alan Sugar said the three U.K. subcontractors, Timex, AB Electronics and Thorn EMI, will have to compete in price and quality for future orders. Amstrad manufactures its products in South Korea.

Sugar said the two companies' product ranges are complementry, with Sinclair occupying the lower, entertainment-oriented end of the home computer market and Amstrad the upper end, geared towards more serious users.
According to Sugar, the commany will take a seasonal apbroach to the business, concern-

## By Amstrad Firm

MANAGEMENT TNFO. SYSTEMS WEEK K 4/14/86
rating on Sinclair sales for four months of the year around Christmas, then focusing on - Amstrad sales the rest of the year.
"We're now poised perfectly to do entertainment computers when needed, and we have plenty to do during the other eight months of the year," he said.

Amstrad intends to refine and enhance the Sinclair products, whose sales have suffered from complaints of poor quality.

## Ready By Christmas

Sugar said the enhancements should be completed in time for the Christmas season, when the company plans to introduce a version of the Sinclair Spectrum for $\$ 203$.

Amstrad also plans to set up a software quality control section to advise and certify third-party software houses. Sugar noted that Sinclair's poor reputation has stemmed partly from a glut of programs that were supposed to work on the Sinclair but didn't.
Amstrad is likely to drop the Sinclair QL computer, which was an unsuccessful attempt to crack the upper end of the market. Sugar noted that production of that model stopped months ago and said a "de-stocking" of The" product would take place.

Under its agreement with Sinclair, Amstrad will have the an dion to market any computers designed by Sinclair in the future. Although Sir Clive will be allowed to design home computers under a name other than Sinclair, he said he has no plans at present to do so.
Under Sinclair's reorganizadion, the company is floating out three separate companies.
One, a joint venture with Barclays Bank, in which Sinclair will have a large minority share, will develop integrated waferscale semiconductor products based on proprietary technology from SRLS Metalab research facility. The first project there will be the development of a large memory, with 40 Mbits on a single piece of silicon.

Another company, based in Cambridge, will carry out con-
tract research and will be headed by Sir Clive and Jim Westwood, Sinclair director of research.

The third, a partnership with Timex, in which Sinclair will retain a large majority share, will develop innovative telecommunications products. That business will be based in Winchester.

Sinclair Research, which at one time was valued at $\$ 199$ million, encountered cash-flow problems last year and had to seek external financing
Robert Maxwell, publisher of the Mirror Group Newspapers, - 1 st June made a $\$ 17.5$ million takeover bid. When that bid fell through in August, Sinclair was rescued by its banks and ceditors.

The agreement with its creditors lapsed in late March and Sir Clive said he recently was apbroached by someone who wanted to invest in the company. But
: Sir Clive said the Amstrad offer was more attractive because it would enable him to get out of marketing and concentrate on research and development.
Sir Clive, who several weeks ago owed creditors between $\$ 8.75$ - and $\$ 10.25$-million, no longer owes his creditors anything after the Amstrad deal. He . said the creditors were "sup-" portive" of the acquisition.

"I always said I was an inventor". he said. "Once a product is developed, I. want to get out."
contrib by $V$, smith \$ Jack Hyping

# Wake Up to Bulletin Board Opportunities 

By P.L. Olympia
Special to GCN
It is the middle of the night. You have just finished installing your new printer that everyone had been recommending. Trouble is, you can't seem to make it work. Where will you go for assistance? Why, a remote bulletin board system, of course.
Unless you have been hibernating for the last few years, you probably know that an RBBS is usually an unattended, microcom-puter-based electronic messaging and file transfer system dedicated to the free exchange of information among its users.

## First of Two Parts

RBBS systems are available for most types of microcomputers. Among the oldest and perhaps most versatile is the version that exists for CP/M micros called the Remote CP/M system.
As you might suspect, today's most popular RBBS systems operate on the IBM PC, XT, AT and compatibles. The most common RBBS host software systems for these machines are RBBS-PC, Fido and PCBoard. PCBoard is currently sweeping the country, primarily because it offers the most functions and performs faster and more elegantly than the others.
The message or conference sections of an RBBS offer free advice from experts around the country, or even around the world, depending on its audience. If you need assistance, you normally leave an electronic message describing your problem. Other participants who can help you will either leave a message in response to your question or even phone you to give more detailed advice.
This facility, like other RBBS facilities, is intended as a two-way street - you are expected to provide advice to others when you are in a position to help them.

Many bulletin boards have a special message section called "conference." This works pretty much like the usual public message section except that the message topic is more focused. It could be confined, for example, to a topic such as data base management or to a particular application product such as dBase III.
Depending on the board's policy, you will usually need to be preregistered for a conference before you can participate. A conference may have its own set of public-domain files for sharing that can only be transferred when you are in that conference section.
The RBBS file section lets you share public-domain programs and files with other users. The file section is usually organized in directories by generic topics, for example, printer utilities, software reviews,
word processing, spreadsheet and communications.
The directory listings include the files' names and sizes, short descriptions of their contents and the dates when they were posted. An RBBS may also have the "doors" feature, which allows remote callers to exit to DOS to run a program as though they were on the computer console. This is an excellent vehicle for providing interactive assistance to remote callers. Unfortunately, because of several security issues that the doors facility raises, it is often implemented only on in-house or private systems.
An RBBS is maintained by the system operator (sysop). You may communicate with the sysop by chatting interactively keyboard to keyboard, leaving messages in the public-message or conference section or leaving a comment. The comment facility is a private message function intended only for the sysop.

The sysop, in turn, can post messages for all callers by way of the welcome screen, news screen or bulletin capability. Both welcome and news screens are presented to you during log-on. The bulletins may be accessed from the main menu like other RBBS functions.

Sysops of public boards often are computer hobbyists who, aside from being gluttons for punishment, consider their work a civic duty.

## Types and Uses of RBBS

An RBBS may be private or public. Private boards are often operated by commercial or government organizations for use by employees. Public boards may be open to any caller, may require preregistration or may be accessible only to those who pay a subscription fee.

An RBBS is an extremely cost-effective tool for delivering up-to-date information to both micro and mainframe users. And it saves paper. Users may share things such as public-domain and internally developed software, bug reports and fixes, meeting announcements, document abstracts, newly discovered techniques and productivity tips. Organizations with offices in different time zones appreciate that an RBBS can send or accept messages and files unattended at any hour.

While much the same thing can be done with a mainframe (forgetting about cost comparisons for the moment), an RBBS has a feature that no mainframe or minicomputer has - the ability to permit remote users to run popular software while an instructor or expert watches at the RBBS console. The instructor can temporarily take over the operation to show the remote user proper command syntax and the like.

My company uses two boards internally
in other ways. Our field offices may transmit to the boards their budget data, documents, meetings calendar and action items on a regular basis. That would seem risky on a wide-open public system; this use reflects our confidence in our private system's security. The RBBS lets us convert documents and mailing lists on Wang Alliance and OIS systems into IBM PC format. We also use them to provide updated versions of software we have developed to clients in far-flung places.

## What You Need

- A PC and a 300,1200 or 2400 bit/sec modem. Many boards that support 2400 bit/sec no longer support $300 \mathrm{bit} / \mathrm{sec}$.
- A PC communications program that supports the XModem protocol for errorchecking.
System operators (Sysops) expect RBBS callers to observe common-sense codes of behavior. When you call an RBBS, imagine yourself in the shoes of the sysop. He is offering a free public service, and he needs your cooperation. Here are a few guidelines to help assure continued use of your favorite board:
- Be an active participant. Don't just occupy space. Give as much as you can, either by uploading new and useful files or answering public messages asking for advice. Read the messages. It is a "bulletin board," after all.
- Don't be greedy. Most sysops will not tolerate callers who $\log$ in under multiple names to pig out on files. An RBBS is based on the spirit of sharing. Using multiple names so you can have more time denies other callers their chance to participate and contribute. Resist the temptation of calling every day just to get files.
- Pay attention to the board's welcome and news messages and bulletins. The sysop may be trying to tell you something.
- Do not upload copyrighted programs. Doing so is the fastest way to get banned from all boards.
- Don't attempt to break into the board. Help persuade others with malicious intentions to abandon their counterproductive activities. Remember, the sysop is performing a valuable service. Damaging the board hurts you as much as it hurts him.
- If you download a shareware program from the board and uee it, you owe it to yourself to make the requested contribution. If you use the program in your organization, the contribution is not optional. Unless you cooperate, everyone's source of inexpensive and excellent programs will disappear, and you will be at the mercy of software vendors, many of whom charge a king's ransom for products that don't do half of what they claim.

Newsletter Review
INFO-G.U.T.S
Grupo de Usarios Timex Sinclair de Mexico
Apartado Postal 75-170
C.P. 07300

Mexico, D.F.
We have just recieved our first issue of lnfo-6.U.T.S. Though I don't speak Spanish, I would like to share ny impressions of the $n / 1$.

It is an interesting effort - 36 pages, center stapled, newsprint, and lightly printed. It has been entirely typed using Tasword and the 2040 printer. This, conbined with the light printing, makes the text rather hard to read. Listings, however, have been printed using the "bold" option, and are fairly legible.

The layout is pleasant, with a good nix of graphics, text, and listings, There are some inspired cartoons, and a well organised table of contents. A large number of prograns have been translated from US newsletters, including Scrolling T/S $1000 / 1500$ por Brian Little. Attributions to authors and users groups are carefully given.

Info-G.U.T.S. Vol. 1, 14 is available in the club library. Even if you don't speak Spanish, it's wor tha look!

```
HFFBTEF HFY TQ EUBL|PTE
```

(-1) +












 Even 引Tu t-a




```
% %HEN F=-1
```



```
TETE% thET
```






```
ETMEth fuTEt\BTE ETHEE T,E 
```






```
mike Monses
```



SURYEY
While at meetings, I bave heard many members asking question about printer a

 cumarised and provided (hopefuliy) in the meeting. The answers will be

$\operatorname{cosT}$
NAME:
PHONE HO.
ERUIPMEFT
COMPUIEER
PRIITYER
DITERPACE
MODEM
IITERPACE
MAKE \& MODEL

## SJN sZOX





- R Jisq! 9 ! Iand



2910-226.108

-s.efndwoz




$85!$ कमणन


## 

CATS Newsletter
P.O. Box 725

Bladensburg MD 20710


COME TO OUR MEETING!
The next meeting of C.A.T.S. will be held on:
Saturday, May 10, 1986
11:00 AM - Hardware meeting
2 - 5 PM - General meeting
At: New Carrollton Public Library
7414 Riverdale Road (Hwy 410), New Carrollton, MD
If you are not a member of cats, this is the only issue you will recieve
Dues $=\$ 16.00$ per year, per family.


[^0]:    CRYPTOGRAM Solution:
    
    
    
    

